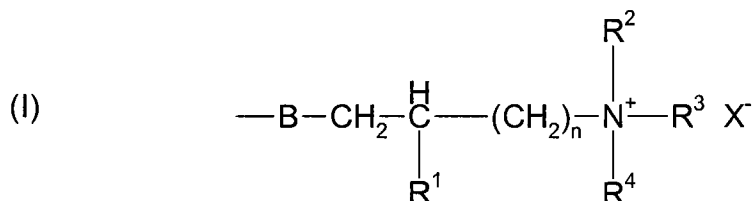## AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims is provided solely for the convenience of the Examiner. No amendments to the claims have been made in this Response.

1. (previously presented) A paper comprising a filler content of above 20 wt% based on the total weight of the paper and a cellulose ether, said cellulose ether having a DS of quaternary ammonium groups of between 0.01 and 0.7, a DS of carboxymethyl groups of between 0.05 and 1.0, and a net charge in the range of from -0.7 to -0.04, with the proviso that the cellulose ether is not a hydroxyethyl cellulose and wherein the cellulose ether is soluble in water.

2. (previously presented) The paper according to claim 1 wherein the quaternary ammonium groups are represented by the formula:
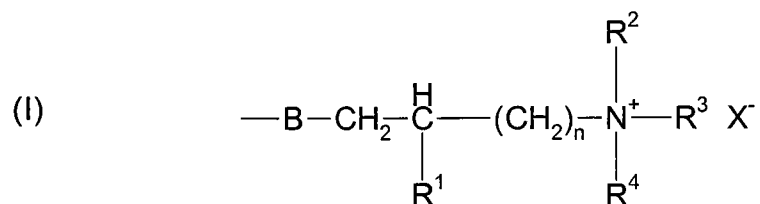
$$\text{(I)} \qquad -B-CH_2-\underset{\underset{R^1}{|}}{\overset{\overset{H}{|}}{C}}-(CH_2)_n-\underset{\underset{R^4}{|}}{\overset{\overset{R^2}{|}}{N^+}}-R^3 \quad X^-$$

wherein R^1 is H or OH, R^2, R^3, and R^4 are the same or different and are selected from C_1-C_{24} alkyl, C_6-C_{24} aryl, C_7-C_{24} aralkyl, C_7-C_{24} alkaryl, C_3-C_{24} cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{24} alkoxyalkyl, and C_7-C_{24} alkoxyaryl groups, or R^2, R^3, R^4, and the quaternary nitrogen atom form an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic ring; n is an integer of 1 to 4, B is attached to the backbone of the cellulose ether and selected from O, OC(O), C(O)O, C(O)-NH, NHC(O), S, OSO_3, OPO_3, NH, or NR^5, wherein R^5 is a C_2-C_6 acyl or a C_1-C_4 alkyl radical, and X^- is an anion.

3. (canceled)

4. (canceled)

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5. (currently amended) A paper coating comprising cellulose ether wherein the cellulose ether has a DS of quaternary ammonium groups of between 0.01 and 0.7, a DS of carboxymethyl groups of between 0.05 and 1.0, and a net charge in the range of from -0.7 to -0.04 and wherein the cellulose ether is soluble in water.

6. (canceled)

7. (canceled)

8. (previously presented) The paper coating according to claim 5 wherein said cellulose ether is not a hydroxyethyl cellulose.

9. (previously presented) The paper coating according to claim 8 wherein the quaternary ammonium groups are represented by the formula:
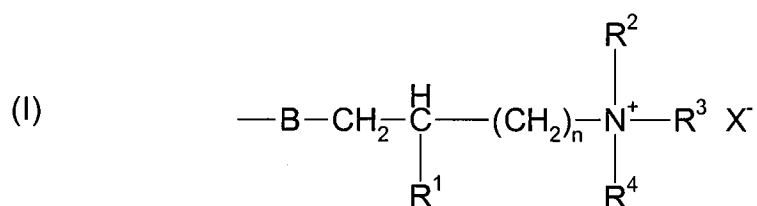
(I)
$$-B-CH_2-\underset{\underset{R^1}{|}}{\overset{\overset{H}{|}}{C}}-(CH_2)_n-\underset{\underset{R^4}{|}}{\overset{\overset{R^2}{|}}{N^+}}-R^3 \quad X^-$$

wherein R^1 is H or OH, R^2, R^3, and R^4 are the same or different and are selected from C_1-C_{24} alkyl, C_6-C_{24} aryl, C_7-C_{24} aralkyl, C_7-C_{24} alkaryl, C_3-C_{24} cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{24} alkoxyalkyl, and C_7-C_{24} alkoxyaryl groups, or R^2, R^3, R^4, and the quaternary nitrogen atom form an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic ring; n is an integer of 1 to 4, B is attached to the backbone of the cellulose ether and selected from O, OC(O), C(O)O, C(O)-NH, NHC(O), S, OSO_3, OPO_3, NH, or NR^5, wherein R^5 is a C_2-C_6 acyl or a C_1-C_4 alkyl radical, and X^- is an anion.

10. (canceled)

11. (canceled)

12. (previously presented) A method of making paper comprising:

adding the cellulose ether of claim 1 to an aqueous paper stock

adding a filler to said stock;

removing water from said stock; and

drying said stock;

wherein the paper has a filler content above 20 wt% based on the total weight of the paper.

13. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said quaternary ammonium groups are represented by the formula:

(I)

$$-B-CH_2-\underset{\underset{R^1}{|}}{\overset{\overset{H}{|}}{C}}-(CH_2)_n-\underset{\underset{R^4}{|}}{\overset{\overset{R^2}{|}}{N^+}}-R^3 \ X^-$$

wherein R^1 is H or OH, R^2, R^3, and R^4 are the same or different and are selected from C_1-C_{24} alkyl, C_6-C_{24} aryl, C_7-C_{24} aralkyl, C_7-C_{24} alkaryl, C_3-C_{24} cycloalkyl, C_2-C_{24} alkoxyalkyl, and C_7-C_{24} alkoxyaryl groups, or R^2, R^3, R^4, and the quaternary nitrogen atom form an aliphatic or aromatic heterocyclic ring; n is an integer of 1 to 4, B is attached to the backbone of the cellulose ether and selected from O, OC(O), C(O)O, C(O)-NH, NHC(O), S, OSO_3, OPO_3, NH, or NR^5, wherein R^5 is a C_2-C_6 acyl or a C_1-C_4 alkyl radical, and X^- is an anion.

14. (previously presented) The paper according to claim 1 wherein the paper has a filler content above 25 wt% based on the total weight of the paper.

15. (previously presented) The method of claim 12 wherein the paper has a filler content above 25 wt% based on the total weight of the paper.